GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
AGRICULTURE AND FARMERS WELFARE
LOK SABHA

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:1517
ANSWERED ON:08.12.2015
Dependence of Agriculture on Monsoon
Dhruvanarayana Shri Rangaswamy;Nagar Shri Rodmal;Paraste Shri Dalpat Singh;Simha Shri Prathap

Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE AND FARMERS WELFARE be pleased to state:

(a) the details of agricultural land including the percentage of net sown area dependent on monsoon/rainfall in the country, State/UT-wise;

(b) the names of the districts in various States/UTs of the country which have been affected due to low rainfall in the recent times;

(c) the details of farmers engaged in the agriculture, State/UT-wise;

(d) whether there are reports regarding conversion of agricultural land into barren land and decline in foodgrain production due to low rainfall in most of the States and if so, the details thereof, State/UT-wise; and

(e) the steps taken by the Government to reduce the dependency of agriculture on monsoon and promote dry land farming and enhance net irrigation area under micro irrigation projects in the country including Karnataka?

Answer

MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE AND FARMERS WELFARE

???? ??? ????? ?????? ???????? ??? ????? ?????? (SHRI MOHANBHAI KUNDARIA)

(a): As per Land Use Statistics 2012-13 (latest available), State/UT-wise details of agricultural land, including the net sown area dependent on monsoon/rainfall in the country are given in annexure I.

(b): The names of the districts in various States/UTs of the country which experienced deficient/scanty rainfall during monsoon 2015 are given in annexure II a & b.

(c): As per Census 2011 (latest available), State/UT-wise details of farmers engaged in agriculture are given in annexure III.

(d): Despite shift of area to non agricultural uses, there is no significant decline in the agricultural land in the country. As such, there is no evidence to show conversion of a agricultural land into barren land. However, the agricultural production in the country being

Contdâ€¦2/-

largely dependent on monsoon rainfall, there has been decline in the foodgrains production during 2014-15 and 2015-16 on account of deficient rainfall in various parts of the country. State-wise details of production of foodgrains during 2014-15 and 2015-16 vis-Ã -vis 2013-14 are given in annexure IV.

(e): Government has taken several measures to reduce the dependency of agriculture on monsoon and promote dry land farming in the country.

All states including Karnataka have been advised to ensure availability of seeds of low water consumption crops and ensure meeting any contingency cropping requirement in the eventuality of deficient rainfall. Under National Food Security Mission (NFSM), National Mission on Oilseeds and Oil Palm (NMOOP) and Bringing Green Revolution to Eastern India (BGREI) schemes, the States may make changes within guidelines in approved action plan to meet the contingency arising out of deficient rains. 10% of funds available under Rashtriya Krishi Vikas Yojana (RKVY) have also been kept aside for undertaking appropriate interventions to mitigate drought like situation, if any, arising out of deficient rainfall. Appropriate drought mitigation measures viz., construction of water harvesting structure under MGNREGA; promoting agronomic practices for moisture conservation; promoting cultivation of less water consuming crops; restoration of irrigation infrastructure by de-silting canals; energizing tubewells, replacing/repairing faulty pumps etc. are taken by States to deal with any potential drought situation. Further, NMSA as a programmatic intervention made operational from the year 2014-15 aims at making agriculture more productive, sustainable, and remunerative and climate resilient by promoting location specific integrated farming systems; soil and moisture conservation measures; comprehensive soil health management; efficient water management practices and mainstreaming rainfed technologies. Climate resilient interventions have been embedded and mainstreamed into Missions/ Programmes/ Schemes of Dept. of Agriculture, Cooperation & Farmers Welfare (DAC&FW) through a process of restructuring and convergence. Also, Micro Irrigation component of On Farm Water Management (OFWM) has been

subsumed under Pradhan Mantri Krishi Sinchayee Yojana (PMKSY). The focus of OFWM is primarily on enhancing water use efficiency by promoting appropriate technological interventions like drip & sprinkler irrigation technologies, efficient water application and distribution system, secondary storage and drainage development.